The True Story of Maximilian

striking contribution to the history of the invertal flasco in Maxico line intely appearunder the title of I'm Essai D'Empire au per P. Massenas (Paris: G. Charpen-The author is well known in this city as per editor of the Converse des Elats Unis, puller was at one time the conductor of the Era, a French paper published in the city Moxico. Through his journalistic affiliane editorial staff of La France, he has enjo) -1 exceptional facilities of information reing the interior workings of the political ey tem organized in Mexico during the French ation. He was moreover, an eyewitness supreme convulsion, and of the events immediately preceded and provoked His conclusions are so novel, so decall by opposed to the current impressions. they are, at the same time, fortified by such colous and authoritative vouchers, that they t fail to challenge the most serious attention. If we accept his judgment upon the opsities opened to the Austrian Archduke at lof the use made of them, we shall have to wholly reconstruct our notions of the impeexperiment and of Maximilian's personal We have heretofore taken for great d that the odium of his collapse was of argeable exclusively to the bad faith of the French Government, that the Hapsburg Prince was a man of enpacity and energy, who was wieked in a desperate endeavor to solve an impossible problem, and that his failure was predestined and artfully promoted by the very concles which he supposed were pledged to his support. This volume, on the other hand to be described as an elaborate argument in aur ort of the thesis that in the year 1864 the at of empire was entirely practicable, and that for its miscarriage Maximilian was solely responsible. M. Masseras, in a word, is one of these who had faith in the future of the imperial establishment in Mexico. He believed in it, he tells us, not from personal predilection or blind adhesion to a policy which had involved the redit of France in a hazardous adventure, but because there was a time when, in the face of deficulty and incredulity, the foundation of the Mexican empire' was veritably accomplished, and when nothing was lacking to insure its development and stability but a little foresight and dexterity on the part of the indi-

viduals intrusted with its guidance and control. M. Masseras reminds us that Mr. Seward had formally admitted in 1863 and 1864 that the Minroe doctrine by no means denied to the nations of the American continent the right of adopting any political regime, and that, if a naal empire were established in Mexico with the consent of the Mexicans, the United States could not refuse, without repudiating their tradias, to acknowledge the imperial Government, What they had recognized in Brazil they must re ognize in Mexico, provided the political system, in the one case as in the other, represented the will of the people. The problem was to fulfil this condition, and it could not be solved by France without the cooperation of the Mexican population. That the French expeditionary could occupy the capital city, no ondoubted, even after the discomfiture of assault on Puebla. That, one looked in the metropolis, it could find there the elements of a monarchical party adequatto a nominal ratification of the empire, was, at t, equally certain. What was doubtful, howwas the reception which the foreign in ution, and the Government proclaimed r its auspices, would encounter in the dis tr. is of the interior. That was the obscure side question, and light began to dawn on it from the day when resistance proved to be far from general, and when it became evident that the mass of the population, worn out by revolutions, was ready to welcome any system capable of insuring peace, and order, and stability The voice of the capital, pronounced in favor of pire, did by no means awaken a prompt and universal echo, but the response evoked at all events, suffleed to guarantee a body of partisins so much the more effective that they belonged for the most part to the controlling classes of society, those who had something to give and something to lose.

In M. Masseras's opinion, too little weight has be a attached to the sum total of votes polled in favor of the empire. If we take into account the circumstances of the election, the social poon of the electors, and the general habits of timecountry, in the exercise of the suffrage, we must invest, he thinks, these votes with substantial value and impressive authority. We are reminded that the so-called plebiscite was taken, not by secret ballot, but by viva voce detaration, each voter affixing his signature contestable testimony, in the event of disaster, against those who ventured to associate their names with a monarchical enterprise. Our author questions whether as many voters could have been found in France to face the risk confronted by the Mexican notables, with a like prespect of sanguinary reprisals. How im ctant the demonstration really was may be Inferred from the fact that the Juarist party, on tecaining power in 1867 was constrained to signally alleviate the rigorous measures first proclaimed against the supporters of Maximillan. To have applied these regulations after their primitive tener would have been equivaleat, says our author, to striking down almost By ry man in Mexico distinguished for fortune

position, or private character. There was, however, we are told, something in re encouraging and efficient than the partia ad esten of the electoral body; there was really an active cooperation on the part of the nation In the organization and working of the new resime. The French columns, which began to overron the interior after the proclamation of the empire and the installation of the regence by sided over by Gen. Almonte, had no diffi bully in constituting local authorities, wh blan volunteered to second the provisional administration pending the arrival of the Empe for. When the latter disembarked at Vers Drug, every city, with two or three exceptions had railled to his cause, and was governed to his name by Mexican municipal officers. Jua re and his spectral authority, relegated to the explored regions of the northern border had almost ceased to count at all as an elemen In the situation. The mass of the people surprised and captivated by the unwented becurity of life and property, were becoming honestly attached to an order o things which promised them a measure Borral and individual well-being unknown for half a century. A large section of the libera party itself had begun to question whether judicious patriotism did not counsel a frank acceptance of the new regime, with the prorather than the reckless prolongation of a hope less contest. The state of things here per trayed unquestionally differs widely from th pictures drawn at the time by the Juan's Envoys at Washington. Its truth, however, i vindicated by extracts from the private letters ! Mr Zamacona to the nominal President the Mexican republic, written at the very tim whon Maximilian was making his entry int-Mexico. According to the admissions of this Witness a fatal blow had been inflicted on the Republican cause by the fact that the materia Dompation of the territory had been suc

coded by a veritable moral conquest. M. Masseras examines the specious analogy so often drawn between the imperial experi ment in Mexico and the effort of Napoleon I. to Bent his prother Joseph on the Spanish throne It is true enough that both enterprises wrough: n their ultimate outcome, a grave injury to France, and enforced one and the same leason as regards the policy of intervention; in eason tial features, however, they are sharply distinguished from one another. The war of 1808 was, at bottom, a war of conquest, tending to make the Iberian peninsula a vascal of French empire. Joseph's accession inevitably sarried with it a permanent French occupation. and the final abdication of anything like a national policy. The Emperor Maximillan, on the or hand, appeared in Mexico under radically flifferent conditions; there existed no family tie, no identity of race or interest between him

and the sovereign whose soldiers had made mooth his passage to a throne. The species of association in which events had piaced them. could, ie the nature of things, be only ilmited and transient. With the exception of certain commercial advantages. France had nothing to look for from an empire five thousand miles dis tant from Europe, and which, for many years, must be absorbed in the work of domestic consolidation. M. Masseras insists that the French Government far from desiring to prolong an active interference with Mexican affairs, already, by the beginning of 1864. ooked with impatience and aversion on the task undertaken through M. de Morny's influence, and subsequently imposed by the progress of events. It sought, with the utmost eagerness, to abridge the duration of occupation, and whatever may have been the secret hopes afterward engendered in the mind of Bazaine by Maximilian's failure, they were never countenanced, in the opinion of our author, by the French Government. If these premises can be accepted, and certainly the author adduces much evidence on their behalf, the new Emperor brought nothing to Mexico but his personality. He came to exercise a genuine and not a counterfelt sovereignty, as the untrammelled and unpledged ruler of an independent nation, not as the tool of a foreign Government, designed to delude for a season the Mexican people, and hoodwink public opinion throughout the world-to be discredited and thrust aside when the brief masquerade was over. Unquestionably his position differed widely from that which confronted the brother of Napoleon I, at Madrid. The provisional administration of the regency, conducted with real ability by Gen. Almonte, bac carried out, by Mexican hands, the first measures of transition between the republican order of things and the imperial regime, and had already demonstrated how the French occupation could be turned to account as a temporary shield without becoming a yoke. Thus, instead of entering a country animated by profound and violent dislike, Maximilian found the Mexican people rather hesitating than hostile, and under a dominant impression of anxious curisaity ready to change into hope. Before cordially endorsing the new political system, a maority of the population only waited for one thing: to learn whether it were really true that they were to have an orderly, coherent, and suc-

cessful Government. M. Masseras knows Mexico well, and we may to well to heed his protest against the unfavorable judgment commonly pronounced against its people. We are wont, he says, to judge the ountry by the events which have made it the prov of anarchy, and not by the elements of co. aesion and progress which it comprehends. We transfer to the whole Mexican nation a condemnation deserved only by some hundreds of individuals, whose interest and vocation involve the disturbance of public order. He points out that the secret of Mexico's incessant revolutions lies in the fact that the question of civil government as been fatally intermixed with the religious. or, rather, ceclesiastical problem. At the root of thousand pronunciamentos, which make up lexican history during the past half century here is nothing but the quenchless strife -tween a liberal party, seeking to overthrow celesiastical preponderance, and a the cratic party, defending with desperation its lucrative prerogatives and age-long influence. Owing to the swift sequence of neces sions and overthrows, intestine war became a chronic malady of the body politic, and engendered a floating force of adventurers and outlaws always ready to embrace any cause that took the field, and gave a pretext and a flag to heir vagrant wariare. From a distance the bserver beheld nothing but these ready-made naturials of insurrection, these free lances of revolt, incessantly stirring up the country with one outery or another, and he was naturally isposed to measure the mass of the population by its superficial strata. The main body of the Mexican people is far from meriting so harsh an estimate. Its share in revolutions has, for the most part, been limited to an effort that each change should cost it as little as possible. And while it looked with resignation on the politialimbrogilo, it remained hard-working and up right, hoping for better days to come, and asking nothing better than to rally round the man who seemed likely to insure them. Maximilian had a momentous advantage over

preseding rulers in that he found the religious question virtually solved. The disendowment

relained and carried out by Juacez had at las

cut the knot of the prolonged entanglement of

Church and State, and rendered a permanent adjustment possible. The clergy, already distheir colossal resources, deprived of their social preponderance, and constrained to bend before the civil auority, might talk indeed of rein and make a restoration of their ands the condition of their support, but they were secretly conscious that their property was st beyond recall. Whatever their nominal exactions, they really hoped for nothing better than a less precarious regulation of their position. and certain reasonable concessions in the inerest of their prestige and the independent exercise of their spiritual functions. On the other hand, those liberals who had purchased secularized lands wanted nothing but a final recognition of the rights acquired, willing to entribute their share of concessions to the compromise which should guarantee their itle. To put an end to this quarrel, which, at bottom, was already settled by the more force of events, nothing was lacking but a disinterested arbiter whose decisions could be neither affuenced nor discredited by past affiliations. Maximilian satisfied these conditions, and the idea of a concordat arranged through his mediation was generally regarded as the natural and easy means of reconciling victors and anquished after their struggle of flity years. Another symptom of the popular attitude as especially significant. Much has been said of the straitened pecuniary resources, which saffed and brought to naught the intentions of Maximillian. It seems that the penury of which the Hapsburg Prince complained was of his own creation. The truth is that the provisional administration, which had been working for a ear had given the most encouraging fiscal re sults. Two facts equally unexpected had been ittested by the Almonte regency; on the one and, the facility with which taxes, fairly aportioned, could be collected, on the other, the essibility of scouring upright functionaries e moment they could reck on on the punctual sayment of their salaries, and upon a future se ured from revolutionary entastrophes. The mall beginnings of stability bestowed on Mexo by the more expectation of the empire had certed such a wholesome pressure on the civil ervice that, after having met all the current of ons of the Treasury, the regency could forto the new sovereign economies amountng to some \$300,000-not a large surplus, cerunly, but an augury of what might be ascomlished by a patient and skilful application of a estem well begun.

The policy of Juarez now driven to his last lace of refuge in Chihuahus, was limited to watting for the blunders of his opponent. M. Musserns, as we have shown, holds that these expectant tactics were not justified by the out-look when Maximilian landed at Vera Cruz in May, 1864, but they were abundantly vindicated y events. The mistakes of the new comer had egun before he had even set foot upon the Mexcan soil. It was an error, for instance, to have passed through Rome without regulating at least the outlines of a concordat. It was a still graver blunder to have set out for such an enerprise as the creation of an empire in trange land across the sens without looking in the face any of the harsh requirements of the new position, or foregoing any of the frivoliies of the life left behind. According M. E. Domenech, whose "Histoire du Mexique" fortifies the position taken by M. Masseras, a glance at the companions and attendants of the Hapsburg Prince would have sufficed to explain all the administrative and colitical follies which entailed the downfall of ne smpire. For a country drained and tottering under a weight of debt, and exhibiting nothing but a jumble of industrial, commercial. and social rulps, the Archduke and his friends were engaged in formulating decrees upon the | was a mere trick of speech or device for gain-

order of precedence at public cerem planning the institution of an order of knight good, of a guard Palatine, and all the accessories of a splendid court. There were scarcel bree roads in Mexico; there was an almost to tal want of educational appliances; there was instant need of creating a police force, a judiciary, an army; and meanwhile the Hapsburg counsellors in the cabin of the Novara were busied in devising embroidered coats, in defining the insignia of office, and, above all, in distributing lucrative posts about the palace among the foreign attendants of the Emperor In such hands M. Domenech thinks the fate of the imperial experiment could be easily fore shadowed. It is clear, indeed, that to prosecute successfully the work begun by the Almonte regency, it was essential that the new government should be one of sober aspect, of practice sagacity, of rigorous economy, and of resolute persistence in deliberate designs. It was, above all, essential that the sovereign in whom the new order was personified should know how to ally the dignity and firmness of suprem power to the simplicity of manners to which forty years of republican life had accustomed the population, and which the straitened condition of the finances made a pecuniary neces sity. As a matter of fact, not one of these obvious and indispensable requirements was complied with. It seemed rather that a headlong and incredible obliquity impelled the Austrian Prince

to the opposite extremity.

It appears that the blunder committed in the choice of the attendants brought from Europe was further aggravated on the eve of disembarkation. Whatever were to be the ultimate political transformations, one preliminary step was plainly indicated, viz., the maintenance of Gen. Almonte in the control of the situation which he had managed for a year with indisnutable ability and devotion. But on boarding the Novara to present his homage to a Prince whose reign he had helped to render possible Señor Almonte learned that he was to be exiled from politics and consigned to the relatively derisive functions of Grand Marshal of the Palce. At the same time began the nominations of Chamberlains and Ladies of Honor, which were supplemented by a post of Grand Master of Ceremonies. It transpired further that the Emperor was bringing with him a corps of halberdiers, selected among the tallest and best looking fellows whom he had been able to recruit, and attired in gorgeous uniforms. This stage business, the last thing which people had expected from a man reputed to possess administrative ability, must have produced a bad impression even if accompanied by acts of the high est import and gravity. How much more profound was the astonishment and anxiety awak ened when it was found to be the principal occu pation of the sovereign. The process of disillu sion could go no further, when it leaked out tha the first business transacted by Maximilian or his arrival in the capital was to place in the hand of a printer the codified etiquette of the court with the most minute instructions, and the ex press injunction to subject the precious proofs to his personal revision. In a word, the Aus trian Archduke seems to have surveyed the solemn duties and august possibilities of his imperial role in the gay and giddy temper of

a familiar rhyme: Layender blue, diddle, diddle,

When I am King diadle, diddle, You shall be Queen. It may seem unreasonable to forecast the respects of a reign by such trivial details, yet it is certain that they checked the general en husiasm and none of Maximillan's subsequent performances were calculated to revive it. The reputation for tact and for political good sense couired by the Archduke during his admints tration in Italy, thanks to a fortunate concourse of circumstances, and thanks especially to a privy counsellor of remarkable ability, had caused people to overlook the divagations of an unstable and dissolute youth. Some external qualities of unquestionable attractiveness, a lively though shallow intellect, a great fluency of speech, and an artificial amen ity of manners, disguised the weakness of character which underlay this pleasan surface. Scarcely was he plunged, however real business of government, and abandoned to his own control, than he showed himself to be a very different man from the well-reputed prince to whom it had seemed possible to confide the task of founding an empire. Volatile and a stranger to an profound attachment; versatile but devoid of any solid accomplishment; incapable of se quence in his ideas, and in his conduct; irreso ute whenever judgment was alone invoked but wrong-headed and intractable when vanity play; disposed to take refuge in minute and frivolous details from the irksome strain of serious responsibilities; pledging his word, and breaking it with caust ! having, in short, neither the experience of affairs nor a taste for them, nor even an appre-ciation of the grave things of life, the Prince intrusted with the work of Mexican reconstru tion was, in all respects, the opposite of what

he circumstances imperatively required. It will surprise no one to learn that the complement of such a character was the most reckless prodigality, a total want of circumspection in everything relating to money matters. The Archduke had never known how to balance his accounts, and his worse than embarrassing situntion at the date of the offer of the throne is no secret to anybody. He belonged to that class of en who, in the satisfaction of a whim, ignore anything like calculation, and push aside the care of ways and means by the complacent reflection that money is always to be had. Th disproportionate luxury of the imperial establishment was already a heavy load for finances in which, after Almonte's dismissal, there was scarcely anything certain except the budget of expenditures. Maximilian imposed the further burden of every fantastic caprice that might come into his head. One day, for instance, it was a court theatre that happened t strike his fancy, and thereupon a sum of eighty thousand dollars was diverted from the scanty fundassigned to public works; again it was a statue of Morelos, for which he paid twelve thousand dollars, in order to give himself the pleas ure of a pompous inauguration. Nor were these isolated facts, but, on the contrary, they figured in the life of every day. Meanwhile Gen. Mejia lost whole weeks waiting for the modest sum requisite to enable him to take posession of his important command at Matamo res. About the same time the head cashier at the Treasury replied to an officer who presented an order for his travelling expenses. "I have just five dollars in the vault, and even this coin would not be there had I not been keeping it as a curiosity."

It is a poculiarity of natures like Maximilian's that they show themselves rebellious t all direct and legitimate influence, and are only amonable to such indirect and artful pressure as manages to enlist or alarm their self-conceit. M. Masseras has no doubt that the Empress Charlotte, although she shared, in some degree her husband's weakness for etiquette and court pageantry, yet possessing a much firmer character, and actuated in a supreme degree by the entiment of veritable dignity, might have prevented many mistakes, and perhaps have sensibly modified the current of events, had she really exercised the ascendancy over the Emperor's mind with which she has been credited. The two periods during which she filled the rôle of regent-three months in 1864, two months in 1865-revealed in her no small measure of disciplined intelligence, of ririle loyalty, and of natural aptitude for serious affairs. But even at the time when she was thus nominally intrusted with the direction o the Government her real power was very slight. The wisest decisions outlined by the Empress Regent with the aid of counsels she was shrowd enough to accept, however distasteful they might be to her, had to wait for the sovereign's approval, an approval which usually would be estponed for weeks, and finally forgotten. All the more certain was the influence of the unfortunate Princess to prove entirely null when the Emperor, present in Mexico, resumed the exercise of his futile, inquisitive authority. Not that the latter was not fond of putting forward the name of the Empress, but this, in our author's opinion,

ing time. If, at rare moments, he allowed her an apparent participation in certain projects, he made her expiate it bitterly. When the hour of disappointment came, he indulged in the re criminations common enough with weak and eadstrong characters; he would affect to cast on his noble companion the responsibility of diffi-culties which his perversity alone had rendered insurmountable, and would relegate her with galling estentation to the petty field of household cares. Such a proceeding was doubly painfu to a princess, who idolized her husband, and carried to extremes the proud isolation of her attitude toward the people who sur rounded her. In veiled, but sufficiently significant language, M. Masseras intimate that the calamity which made her an object of universal commiseration was not the first, or perhaps the hardest to bear in a career full of trials. It had been preceded and pro voked by secret sufferings of more kinds than ne, supported in silence, and which explai and excuse the haughty apathy and disdainful humor with which her attendants reproached the Empress of Mexico in the day of her ephem

eral grandour. We can only sketch the foreground of the picture exhibited on M. Masseras's canvass The novel and substantial kernel of his book is the clear and emphatic enunciation of tw facts-first, that the imperial experiment had a fair prospect of success, and, secondly that Maximilian was himself responsible for its miscarriage. Throughout the first two years of the Prince's residence in Mexico his conduct was worse than futile it was fareical. And even when what began in farce came to end in tragedy, M. Masseras is constrained by unflinching adherence to th letter of the truth to strip almost the jast vestige of dignity from the hare-brained Emperor.

It seems that the crisis was defined as early as the spring of 1866. It was already clear to French and Mexicans alike that whatever might be said of the practicability of empire, the Emperor himself was quite impracticable. If any key could be found to the perplexing situa tion, it was plain that a first and indispen sable step was Maximilian's abdication For months he seemed eager to go, and doubtless would have gone, had no his vanity been piqued by the suggestion that the French were anxious to be rid of him. By cleverly working on his vanity, which seems to have been the only active and abiding motor of his mind, certain disroputable persons, who had everything to lose by any change of régime, con trived to check his projects of departure. If such a man can be said to have had any definite and clearly recognized object, his motive in remaining seems to have been to thwart and spite th French. We cannot believe that even he can have een gulled by the spurious demonstrations of popular support gotten up on the announce ent of his purpose to confide in the loyalty of Mexicans. He must have known that in proportion as the French forces obeying the order of withdrawal had con verged upon the capital, every city and own, with three exceptions, had been instantly ecupied without resistance by the Juarista; and that, when the last of Bazaine's columns had embarked at Vera Cruz, his communica tions with Europe would be cut off, and his Em pire would dwindle to the three isolated cities of Mexico, Puebla, and Queretaro. But he had committed himself to highflown protests ions, and wounded vanity upheld him in an attitude of counterfeit resolution and mock confl dence. Yet it was scarcely a day after he turned from the window, from which he had watched the ast French regiment departing, with the words, Now I am free," that he penned the extraor dinary letter to Porficio Diaz, offering to make that General the Commander-in-Chief of his own orces, and sub-master of the Empire. Did this ook like faith in the efficieny of his adherents. or could a man capable of such a performance deserve loyal service? How can we construe such a letter except as a deliberate act of treachery to his own ministers and officers,

o men like Miramon and Mejia, and Mender who were then risking their lives on his behalf. and were about to die with him? There are doubtless those to whom M. Mass ras's plain speaking will seem harsh and unseemly, and who would fain remind him that he writes above a new-made grave. But the author is a Frenchman, and he remembers that the odlum of the Mexican flasco has been unustly charged on another victim of misfor tune, already overburdened with shortcom ngs of his own. On Napoleon III., too death has fallen, on Bazaine dishonor, and on the Empress Charlotte a fate more delerous than death. It is only they whose lives are cast in the modest lines of private station who may invoke the generous maxim, "de cortuis;" those whose careers have been tupexpect to foil or melt the tey glance of history. At her bar there is no place for pity. For Charles Stuart and Louis XVI.; even for Marie An cinette and the luckless Maximilian, there is only justice. M. W. H.

Notes on Railrond Accidents.

Mr. C. F. Adams, Jr., whose monograph on "Railroads and Railroad Questions" is well known, has now published another useful and interesting volume on a branch of the same subject under the title of Notes on Railroad Accidents (Putnams). In a compact volume o some two hundred and fifty pages the author describes and analyzes a multitude of casualtieswith a view to discerning and classifying their causes and preventives-from the death of Mr. Huskisson in 1830, up to our own time. Afte tracing the history of disasters occasioned by imperfect organization, defective machinery and the carelessness of employees, he considers in a series of chapters, the precautions and adjustments, the improvements and invention suggested by the experience of the last haif century. Among the subjects discussed with particular thoroughness and acuteness are the protection of bridges, the automatic electriock system, the Milier platform and buffer, and the Westinghouse brake. The value of th three last-named appliances, in his judgment, annot be overstated, and a chief aim of this volume is to familiarize the public with them. and thus hasten their more general adoption. In one of his later chapters Mr. Adams points

ut how completely the idea, once current, of the exceptional danger incident to travel by rail has in our time passed away. Most persons probably have drawn the inference, from indi vidual observation, that a journey by rail is, after all, far less bazardous than a journey with horse and wagon. The truth is that, in proportion to the whole number carried, the accidents to passengers in the old days of stage conches ere, as compared to the present time of the railroad dispensation, about as sixty to one. In his country and in England there are no staristics in relation to the earlier period : but hey have such statistics in France, stretching over the space of more than forty years, and as rustworthy as such data ever are. Assuming he French statistics to hold true of New England-and, considering the relative condition of roads in the latter country, they are probably oo favorable—Mr. Adams has no doubt that here were literally more persons killed and injured each year in the thinly peopled Massachusetts of fifty years ago, through accidents to stage coaches, than there are now through accidents to railroad trains.

What is the average length of the railroad ourney resulting in death by casualty to a pru dent traveller? This is a question to which most persons setting out on an extended course of travel are apt consciously or unconsciously to give some consideration. According to our author's calculation, based upon the very worst of years-the year of the Revere disaster, which stands us paralleled in the history of Massachusetts-it would seem that even in that twelve month the average journey resulting in death was 11,000,000 miles, while that resulting either in death or personal injury was not less than 5,300,000. If we take, however, a much more reasonable basis of computation, viz., the nine years 1871-79, we find the average distance travelled by all, before death happened to any one, was about 80,000,000 miles, while that travelled before any one was either killed or injured was about 10,800,000. Admitting, therefore, that ill-luck must fall to the lot of certain

bie persons, yet the chances of inurring that hard fortune are so small that they are not materially increased by any amount of ravelling which can be accomplished within the limits of a human life.

A comparison well worth attention is insti-

tuted by the author between American and foreign railroads with respect to the liability to railroad accidents. There is no doubt that the United States enjoy an undesirable reputation in the matter of precaution against railway casualties, and that foreign authorities have s habit of referring to our "well-known national disregard of human life." So far as the whole country is concerned, the assertion can neither be proved nor disproved from the absence o sufficient data. But Mr. Adams affirms there is no ground for it as regards Massachusett at all events, and he inclines to think the same statement may be made of the whole of the belt States lying north of the Potomac and the Ohio The author adopts, for the purpose of comparison, the British Board of Trade returns for the eight years 1870-77, and he finds that during this period about one passenger in each 14,500,000 carried in that country was killed by railroad accidents, while about one in each 436,000 was injured. In the case of Massachusetts, on the other hand, during the eight years 1872-9 the killed were one in each 13,000,000, and the inured one in each 1,230,000. The substantial equality as respects the killed in this comparion, and the marked discrepancy in regard to the injured, is calculated, at first sight, to throw doubts on the fulness of the Massachusetts returns. But it is pointed out by the author that this Incongruity is susceptible on closes scrutiny of a very simple and satisfactory ex planation. In case of accident, the danger of sustaining slight personal injury is by no means so great in Massachusetts as in Great Britain, owing to the heavier and more sold construction of the American passenger coache and their different interior arrangement.

What of late years has been done to diminish the dangers of the rail, and what more can be done? Few persons, says the author, realize what a tremendous pressure in this respect is constantly bearing down upon those whose business it is to operate railroads. A great ac cident is not only a terrible blow to the pride and prestige of a corporation, not only does it practically ruin the unfortunate officials involved in it, but it entails also portentous finan cial consequences. The Revere catastrophe, for instance, cost the railroad company, liable on secount of it, over half a million of dollars; the Ashtabula accident over \$600,000; the Woll over \$300,000. A few years ago, in England, sustained through the death of a single indi idual, and during the five years 1867-71 the railroad corporations of Great Brit out over \$11,000,000 in compensation for damages occasioned by acci-dents. In view merely of such money consequences of dieaster Mr. Adams thinks it would o most unnatural did not each new casualty lead to the adoption of better appliances to pre vent its recurrence. It is his deliberate con viction that the charges of recklossness and indifference so widely advanced against the man agers of railroads cannot for an instant be sustained. Nevertheless he cites, with much respect, the report of Mr. William Galt, in which the opposite opinion was ably advocat ed. Mr. Galt asserts that, as a matter of actual experience, the principle of self-interest on the part of railway companies has proved a grossly insufficient safeguard.

The Care and Preservation of the Voice. A manual which deserves the earnest at ention of singers, and, indeed, of all persons interested in the musical powers of the human voice, has been prepared by Dr. GHISLANI DUBANT, and is now published in a new and revised edition by Cassell, Petter & Galpin in a volume of less than two hundred pages the author has condensed the latest results o scientific inquiry into the anatomy of the vocal apparatus as well as its functional operations and into the conditions which determine the registers and timbre of the voice. This suc einct survey of physiological facts is followed by a discussion of vocal hygiene, in which many useful hints are offered respecting the effect of nourishment, sleep, and other pre ventive and remedial agencies on the preserve ion of the voice from malady and decay. In the compass of a brief notice we can only give particular heed to the suggestions made in connection with the latter branches of th Reminding us that the average quantity of all

breathed out by the singer, when vocalizing, is about three times the amount normally respired, Dr. Durant points out the obvious bearing of this fact upon the amount of nutrihas undoubtedly prevailed among singers curiously mistaken notion concerning alimentation, the majority of them seeming to look for a sure guarantee against alterations of the voice in a frugal diet. It should be sufficient to remind them of the unusual loss of tissue occasioned in their case by excessive respiration. to enforce the plain necessity of abundant and easily digested food. Especially should the singer assign a large place in his regimen to the non-nitrogenized, or respiratory substances. comprising such hydro-carbons as butter oil, and fat, and such carbo-hydrates as sugar, starch, and gum, to which Dr. Durant would add such stimulants as beer and wine. It is further urged upon the singer or speaker to abstain from using the voice for a few hours after eating, since, when the stomach is distended, the increased size of that organ prevents, in a measure, the lowering of the diaphragm, and therefore the respirators functions are carried on less easily, the leas effort becomes fatiguing, or painful, and the voice itself sounds heavy. Although there would generally be no harm done by eating immedi ately after singing, since the aliments taken tend to repair the waste of the system, yet Dr. Durant thinks it better to allow the body to res for a short time, until the artificial congestion of the vocal apparatus, brought on by strengous exercise, shall have passed entirely away. In such a congested condition even the heat of the food swallowed and the excitant articles, such as pepper, mustard, &c., which are often used with t, might become so many causes of inflammation of the tissues of the pharynx. It is a matter of common observation that, b

he practice of singing, the lungs acquire a rapid development, and are rendered less iable to disease. Indeed, the researches of physiologists seem to have established the fact that the regular exertion of the vocal apparatus operates as a material check on the development of pulmonary consumption. But although moderate exercise of the voice is beneficial through the increased activity stimulated in the pulmonary system, it is clear that excessive exereise may be singularly hurtful. The act of singing, if protracted, commonly produces, as we have said, an artificial congestion of the bronchial tubes, the larynx, the pharynx, and the isthmus of the throat. The parts thus congested, if exposed to a low temperature, inflamreadily, and a great number of the sore throat and bronchial troubles met with are developed under these conditions. Dr. Durant consider the precept of never exposing ourselves to cold or damp air immediately after any violent exertion of the vocal organs, to be of supreme importance. His remark does not, of course apply to the singer alone; the lawyer after pleading, the professor after a lecture, the preacher after his sermon, in short, all persons who have to speak loudly and earnestly for s considerable length of time, must take the same precautions in order to avoid the trouble above mentioned.

The author suggests that those who devote hemselves to singing should conform less to the tyrannical power of certain fashions. Thus female artists, while they need not discard the corset altogether, should beware lest by tigh lacing they cramp the thoracle walls, and thus signally diminish the range and volume of the voice. Nor should they, under any circumstances, expose the bare neck and arms to the action of cold or damp air, or even to such slight variations of temperature as might be innoxious to other persons. The singer, on account of the temporary susceptibility of his

lungs, developed by the straining of the voca apparatus, must spare no means of preserving those organs from abrupt vicissitudes of hea and cold. He can, in a great measure, protec imself by the use of flannel, which not only coops his body warm, but renders the lungs and bronchial tubes less sensitive by maintain ing a slight irritation of the skin. A proper at ention, indeed, to the hygiene of the skin exerts, we are assured, a most favorable influence apon the voice. Frequent bathing, by remov ing from the cuta neous surface the impuritie deposited by perspiration, is observed to sen sibly promote the action of the vocal apparatus It is worth noting that Greek and Roman writers observed the fact that the voices of their singers and orators were more pure and sono-

ous after leaving the bath. Dr. Durant catalogues a number of the curl ous habits indulged in by different artists in order to refresh or strengthen themselves in their moments of rest during the exercise of the voice. Thus, it appears that the Swedish tenor Labatt eats two salted cucumbers, and claims that this vegetable, thus prepared, strengthen his organ. Wachtel swallows the volk of ar ogg beaten up with sugar, Carl Formes used to drink porter, the baritone Rubsan sins hydromel, while the celebrated baritone, Beck, takes nothing, and abstains from apeaking. Mme Sonntag, we are told, used to nibble sardines be twoon the acts; Mme, Cabel munches pears Mme. Ulgade prunes, and Mme. Trebelli straw berries. Mme. Doras-Gras ate, in the wings cold meat, and Mme, Malibran had the pernicious habit of eating a hearty supper in her private box only half an hour before the per We learn that Mme, Adelina Patt sips a glass of seltzer water during the entre ctes, Mme. Nilsson takes a glass of beer, Mme Cruvelli, claret mixed with champagne; while lle. Desparre contents herself with warm water. We may add that Mile. Braun-Brine drinks after the first act, one glass of beer; after the second and third, a cup of coffee with milk, and when she has to sing in the great duo of the fourth act of the "Huguenots," she fortifies herself with a whole bottle of Moët champagne.

A New Art Publication.

The first number of the American Art Re ries has made its appearance from the press of Messrs. Estes & Lauriat of Boston. It is a large quarto, with a cover of excellent design, and i s illustrated with etchings, wood engravings and process plates. It is devoted to the practice, theory, history, and archieology of art and t aims to assume to the fine arts in Americ the relation of the Gazette des Beaux Arts to the

art world of France. The first number is as encouraging a sign o the art progress of the country as has yet been seen. It is so strongly written, so certain of its that one cannot but feel solicitous that the con idence of its publishers in the prudence of the venture may be justified. They appear, how ever, to have no apprehensions on the subject They say that the number of persons directly and indirectly concerned in the arts and the proficiency and knowledge these persons have attained, have made such a journal a necessits and not an incidental or imitative luxury. It is certainly a most creditable production, and its pages probably afford as good evidence of the ustifiableness of the undertaking as can be had rom any other source. The mere fact that it is possible to procure here the material of which t is composed is fairly convincing that the enterprise is otherwise reasonable.

Etchings by European and American artists will accompany each number, and, judging by the examples given in the first, they will not merely represent the conditions of the infancy of the art of etching in America, but will coun n interest and importance the works that have given of late so great an impetus to that are broad. The writings and etchings of Mr. Francis Seymour Haden, the publications of Mr. Hamerton, and, above all, the exquisite plates of the Gazette des Beaux Arts and L'Art have given an extraordinary prominence and importance to the work of the modern painterotchers. Etchings by American artists are practically unknown, but the progress that they have made and the proficiency they have atained are out of all proportion to their advance in other branches of art. Some such publication as the American Art Review is essential for the proper display of their drawings

as well as to afford a market for them. Mr. R. Swain Gifford's plate in the frontis piece is an exquisite bit of work, showing the atmost simplicity of design and effect and the fullest artistic feeling for and mastery of the etched line. In its composition it is unamb tious and unpretending, but it has all the qualities of the best etching-delicacy and great refinement of tone and gradation and a deep significance and purpose in every line that he been bitten into the copper. It is an unaffected piece of work, and was evidently done with great ease and directness and with very little of the mystery and appalling technicality that Mr.

Hamerton delights to ascribe to the processes of aqua fortis. Mr. Smillie's etching, after an example of Jacque in the Belmont collection, is as credit able a piece of work as one may desire to see. It easily approaches the best interpretative stchings of the Gazette and L'Art, and must surprise a great many people who, familiar enough with etchings in general, have no idea that we have ever even attempted work of so high grade. There is nothing in illustrative art more interesting than an effective interpretation of a painter's work through the medium of an etching. Mr. Smillie has lost of Jacqueabsolutely nothing. In his own work that errati painter was not at any time more true to himself or more distinct in his character than he is found in this plate. For the rest there is an excellent impression from a plate by Rajon of one of Murillo's portraits of himself, and a large number of minor illustrations belonging to the etter press. The work is a surprise. It was not to be supposed that it was possible to print otchings in America, much less even to etch. Of the letter press there is a good variety o

articles, instructive, critical, and disputation The general tone is vigorous, sturdy, and confident, and the impression that the work pro duces is upon the whole excellent.

The Book Agent and the Undertaker

"A thin, pale-faced, melancholy tooking oung man," said William Hobart, an undertaker Auburn place, Brooklyn, to Justice Fisher, yesterday Amourn pince, Brooklyn, to Justice Fisher, yesterday,

"came to my loose and sulfied the helf to hard that the
broke it. When I one ned the door he offered me a copy
Shakspears for \$10. Then I knowed him of the
story. He went to the sidewalk, as though he was going
away, put down his earthed, and, rimings back up the
steps, strick me in the eye. Then he ram away." Justice Fisher said that the assailt was provided, and, as
Mr. Hostart could not tell the book agent sname, a warrant of arrest was not issued. Mr. Hostart went away,
threatening to shoot the agent when much he saw him.

The Iron Pen.

From Burger's Monthly

Matafrom a Fetter of Borneland, inc. Principles of Children

Londrad West from the Frigate Constitution, will be

other Create of Gold, funct with three precious Stemes 1

thering Ceylon, and Matrix. I thought this Per would arise From the casket where it lies— Of itself would arise and write My thanks and my surprise. When you gave it me under the pines, : 1 dreamed those gens from the mines () Siloria, deviou, and Maine Would glimmer as thoughts in the lines;

That this iron link from the chain Of Bounivard might retain Some verse of the Post who sang Of the prisoner and his pain; That this wood from the frigate's mast Might write me arisyme at last. As it used to write on the sky The song of the sea and the blast.

But motionless as I wait. Like a Highop lying in state Lies the Pen, with its mitre of gold, And its jewels inviolate. Then must I speak, and say That the light of that summer day In the garden under the pines Shall not fade and pass away?

I shall see you standing there, Caressed by the fragrant air. With the shadow on your face, And the aunshing on your hair. I shall hear the sweet low tone From me, and to you alone." And in words not idle and vain I shall answer, and thank you seain For the gift, and the grace of the gift, O beautiful Holen of Maine!

And forever this gift will be As a drop of the dew of your youth On the leaves of an aged tree. HENRY W. LONGFELLOW.

QUESTIONS OF LOVE AND PROPRIETY Catholic and Protestant-Lovers who Long to leplay their Love.

Sta: I am a Processant, 28 years of age, and by occupation a contracting carpenter and builder; am atricity temperate, and earn a good salary out of my business. The second day of August I was thrown from a building by the breaking of a scaffold, and, though ne bones were broken, I was injured considerably by the fail, and was taken while insensible into a house for the fail, and was taken while insensible into a house for the fail, and was taken while insensible into a house for the fail, and was taken while insensible into a house for the fail, and was taken while insensible into a house for the fail, and was taken while insensible into a house for the fail, and was taken while insensible into a house for the fail, and were in was careful for by a young lady whom I very much is admired from the time I diet is was her, and whom I seem is all the fail of the

tween us, and the day of our wedding is set as the less day of December.

Now, her parents and family are every one of them well satisfied with me as a man, and yet they are strongly opposed to our union, and base their opposition on the point of religion. When our proposed marriage cemes to be called in the Catholic Church (which it must be, as lave consented to be married by the priest), they are socked and primed for a hard battle, and will muster every available force to break our engagement. Of course the priest will refuse to perform the cerumony.

Now, what I wish to know is this: How am I to get over the dilemma! I cannot and will not become a hypocrite by professing the Catholic faith, and to lose the lady is to relinquish the fondest hope I ever cherished.

Now. If you can furnish any plot for getting safely through, you will confer a lifelong favor on

We have no plot for you. The best way is to to to the priest and state the case just as it in and so avoid the occasion for the battle. The policy of the Roman Catholic Church is against marriage between their members and Protesants. Such marriages are performed by priests, however, when an express stipulation is made that the children of the union shall be prought up in the Catholic faith; but of late some priests object to them under any circumtances. You are right, however, in rejecting at once the idea of professing a belief you don't old even to get the wife of your choice.

hold even to get the wife of your choice.

Siz: I am very much troubled, and have at length determined to apply to you for advice, tor I am alone in this world and have not one friend to interest himself of herself in my behalf. I have been greatly afflicted, and a gentleman of my acquaintance who is both interesting and attractive, visited me frequently and expressed so much sympathy for me in all my trouble that I began to mich sympathy for me in all my trouble that I began to elevery grateful to him; but I did not know how much I thought of him until meeting him unexpectedly one day I was so much embarrassed that I did not speak to him. Indeed, I was afraid to look at him less I should show the confusion in my face. Atchurch, also, atthough I wanted to speak to him, to save my life I could not do t. This, I hink, tosether with some other matters, caused him to misunderstand me, for he never now comes near me, and I am perfectly miserable about it, for I did not know with now how much I cared for him. I am very much afraid be will go over to a lady who I think is absticuted to the case, and how I can bring him sow, for it dess seem to me sometimes, if he marries, it will almost kill me.

Probably you have thought so much of him.

Probably you have thought so much of him and your relations with him that you have got things distorted in your mind. The other lady may not want him at all. When next you meet him after church put on a smiling face and bow pleasantly. He ought to feel complimented by he attention, which is really his due after all his kindness. There is no occasion for any awkwardness. You must get over your morbid sensitiveness, and if you like the man, let him see it, to a degree at least. There is no need of your throwing yourself in his way, but when you do see him treat him after a frank and friendly fashion. But be careful ab agining that because you are always thinking of a man, or because he has shown sympathy for you, you are uppermost in his mind. Perhaps you are, and if so, he will tell you in time. Sin: I am a young man 18 years of age, and have fallen very much in love with a very preity young lady, think she loves me, at least she pretends to; but every time I attempt to taik seriously of the matter she seemed to grow cold, and tries to avoid the subject and turn the conversation. By giving me your opinion as to what me best for me to do, you will greatly oblige.

Porham the idea of hereign A Constant READER.

Perhaps the idea of having a boy lover doesn't strike her seriously. The best way for you is to avoid the subject she seems so disinclined to pursue, and wait until she gives indications that she wishes you to take it up again. Lovemaking at your age is apt not to be a very serious matter any way.

Ous matter any way.

Sin: I am on a lonely sea, aged 25, without kith or kin, within a thousand onlies. I have a common school education and tair health. Now I dearly love a young lady, who has given me all the encouragement I might decire as well as being favorably received by the parents. Now at times I think, and very seriously at that, of attending school or college and taking a complete course and going into some profession. Life is no drag to me as I am always in good spirits, but whether it would be advisable for me to embark in matrimony or to run the risk of losing my loved one is a question I cannot decide. Give your opinion in my case, and oblige a

You are old enough to marry, but if you are going to college, put it off. There ought not to be any risk of losing the girl if you have her promise; and if there is any risk, it is a loss you can stand.

Can stand.

Siz: I am a young man 23 years of age, enjoying fair business prosports, and have recently become acquainted with a young lady when I have visit and the control of the fair of the control, and different amisements. The fail myself very decely in love, and very anxions to keep company with her, but have never made any declaration of my love or intentions. Now, should I consult with her parents first, telling them of my hall include the parents first, telling them of my hall intentions, asking their permission to pay my regards to the young lady! Consult the parents by all means, but general-

y in this country the girl is consulted first, and it is she who sends the man to her father. But you will follow a good rule by going to them at once, provided you have any reason to hink you have a chance of gaining. most important, her consent.

Size: I have been married sight years and, until recently, thought my husband loved me, but he says he
does not and did not before nor at the time of our marriage. What I cannot comprehend is what he married
the for as he was not obliged to, and he says if I had
parents and a good home I might go now. I want you te
advise me what to do. I have lots of relatives and not
a small number of friends.

Apple. We think as you do, but outside advice is a

dangerous thing to give to married people who are in trouble with each other, and we can't help rou. Don't spend your life in bickering, at any rate. Accept the situation, if you cannot change it, and be as happy as you can.

Sin: What kind of conversation from young men to most agreeable to young ladies? Also, what kind of con-versation of a young man would best cause young ladies to respect, admire, and like him? How could one become lively, merry and interesting in his conversation? Are there any books published that would help one? Vers.

If your conversation interests young ladies? you will find it out by discovering that they like to have you around; but a young fellow who sets to work to make his conversation agreeable by studying up in advance what he shall say, is pretty sure to be set down by them as a bore, if not a prig. The conversation that will make young ladies respect and like a man is of that unaffected sort that shows he is a pleasant fellow disposed to make himself as entertaining as he can by thinking rather of what will interest them than what will display himself. Young women do not like, and they have very good reason not to like, a man who undertakes to narangue them in his talk, and who is so much occupied in showing himself off that he Greets o observe whether he is entertaining them of not. Out of civility they may tolera him, but, once he is gone, they give way to their guest pressed yawns. There are guides to conversation and directions for conversation published but the best guide is intercourse with intelligens people. If you are a bright fellow, keep comand of yourself, acquire the Labit of listening. with interest, do not think too much about how you are appearing or what effect you are producing, talk as easily when you are throad in company as when you are at home, and make tain a frank and manly bearing, and you will fi you are agreeable enough to young women. Is you are really attractive, they wont stop to analyze your conversation; you may be far from

a glib talker and yet prove very agreeable. a gilb talker and yet prove very agreeable.

Six Three constant readers of your valuable paper
having had a discussion about below-mentioned question,
could not agree on the subject. We at last concluded to
take the liberty to ask your kind view on the matter, and
to let your answer be declaws for us.
The case is as follows: A young man is keeping company with a young lady. A second party, knowney both,
writes to the lady an affectionate letter, soliting her affections, knowing at the same time that said tady is keeping company. The young lady did not give any encouragement to the second vaning him.
The question to would ask you to give your decision
upon is lattright that the lady should show the letter
in question to her company? Turke Constant Raabans.

That is a matter for her to decide. She has a perfect right to show it, though by so doing she may expose the folly and imprudence of heg correspondent.

correspondent.

Sus: The eddest thing that ever could happen happened to me. I met a centieman and he professed great loves forme, and I only liked him and thought I did well to shake him off. I could never get it into my bead that you could fail in love at first sight. I have before men gentlemen that would act thus, but it never affected me before. Do you not think that love lay dermant until lock him for a few day?! Afterward I repenced from the bottom of my heart. I used to think I would not marrest unless I got a rich man, but I would gaily take him the rags. I love him more than life or myself. Don't it seem too had that all this love will be lost, as I may never be hold him again? It may be good snough for me for being accool. Love is like a disease. I am thinking of him ald any, and my heart feels as if it were breaking. Is feel sore. First I used to weep sever day and I sigh, but seems a lost hope. I used to think to be was put on but is real. Dear sir, do you really think this love? I have be popportunity of letting him understand your feelings, for you will doubtiess behold him.

selings, for you will doubtless behold him